

**REMARKS**

The Office Action dated May 2, 2008, and the patents relied on therein have been carefully reviewed, and in view of the above changes and following remarks reconsideration and allowance of all the claims pending in the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 200-240 stand rejected. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 200, 201, 203, 208, 211, 218, 225, 227, 231 and 232, has canceled claims 207, 217 and 233, and has added new claims 241-255. As a result, claims 200-206, 208-216, 218-232 and 234-255 are pending.

**Amendments To The Claims**

Applicant has amended independent claims 200, 201 and 225 to include the features of claim 233, which has been indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 233 has been accordingly canceled.

Claims 208 and 211 have been amended for consistency with amended claim 201. Similarly, claims 207 and 217 have been canceled for consistency with amended claim 201.

Claims 203, 211, 218, 227, 231 and 232 have been amended to improve their respective forms in accordance with U.S. patent law.

New claims 241-255 have been added. New claims 241-255 are respectively based on amended claim 225, claims 226-232 and claims 234-240. Support for new claim 255 can be found throughout the specification, for example, at least at page 38, lines 5-16, and page 39, lines 15-17.

**The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Over Liu In View of Pollin**

Claims 200-240 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Liu et al. (Liu), U.S. Patent No. 5,898,780, in view of Pollin, U.S. Patent No. 5,504,677.

Applicant respectfully traversed this rejection. Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter according to any of claims 200-206, 208-216, 218-232 and 234-240 is patentable over Liu in view of Pollin. Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 201, 202 and 225 have been amended to include the features of claim 233, which has been indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and

any intervening claims. Thus, independent claims 200, 201 and 225 contains allowable subject matter. It follows that the claims that are respectively dependent on independent claims 200, 201 and 225 are each allowable for at least the same reasons that their respective base claims are considered allowable.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow claims 200-206, 208-216, 218-232 and 234-240.

#### **Newly Added Claims**

Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 241-255 are allowable over Liu in view of Pollin for at least the same reason that claims 200-206, 208-216, 218-232 and 234-240 are considered allowable. In particular, new independent claim 241 includes features from claim 233, which has been indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, independent claim 241 contains allowable subject matter. It follows that dependent claims 242-255, which each incorporate the features of claim 241, are each allowable for at least the same reason that claim 241 is considered allowable.

Applicant notes that additional patentable distinctions between Liu and Pollin and the pending claims exist; however, the foregoing is believed sufficient to address the Examiner's rejections. Additionally, failure of Applicant to respond to a position taken by the Examiner is not an indication of acceptance or acquiescence of the Examiner's position. Instead, it is believed that the Examiner's positions are rendered moot by the foregoing and, therefore, it is believed not necessary to respond to every position taken by the Examiner with which Applicant does not agree.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and arguments, it is urged that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find that a telephonic or personal

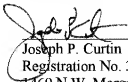
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interview would expedite passage to issue of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

It is requested that this application be passed to issue with claims 200-206, 208-216, 218-232 and 234-255.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 2, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe P. Curtin", is written over a horizontal line.

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